

(Wilmington). Examples: trees along Battle's brook.

147. *Vaccinium arboreum* Marsh. Sparkleberry.

A small tree found from the lower mountains to the coast, and most plentiful in the coastal plain. In Chapel Hill it occurs on sandy banks and rocky bluffs along the creeks, or as a rare shrub on the uplands. Leaves small, shiny, obovate; fruits small, black, dry, sweetish, scarcely edible. Date of flowering: May 23, 1909. Examples: trees on both sides of Morgan's Creek from King's Mill to Scott's Hole, also in woods east of cemetery, etc.

148. *Rhododendron maximum* L. Great Laurel.

The Great Laurel is a shrub or small tree, sometimes 25 feet high with a trunk 10 inches in diameter, that is one of the most abundant, conspicuous, and well known plants of the mountains. It descends rather abundantly as far down as Hickory, and is rare and local as far east as Davidson County, where is it known to occur on a bluff about 2 miles northeast of Yadkin College. Curtis, in his *Woody Plants*, says that this species extends as far east as Orange, but the plant he had in mind is not this species but the Purple or Rose Bay, *Rhododendron catawbiense* Michx., a large shrub which has one of the most singular distributions of any of our plants. Replacing the *R. maximum* on the tops of the highest mountains, it extends in a very scattering way down their eastern sides, and thence on bluffs of rivers